GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1294
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2000
ITEMS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE
CHARAN DAS MAHANT

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any process to provide authentic information to common man about the ancient coins and places or items of archaeological importance:

(b) the number of places of the archaeological importance in the knowledge of the Union Government on which archaeological study has not been conducted as yet; and

(c) the number of places in the country of which archaeological study has been conducted during the last three years and the languages other than English in which information is published about such places ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR)

(a): The Archaeological Survey of India disseminates authentic information to the common manabout the ancient coins and places or items of archaeological importance through its various publications, exhibitions, academic and public lectures and research papers published by its archaeologists and epigraphists in various research journals, bulletins and in the proceedings of seminars and conferences.

(b): The basis for protection of any monument or site under the Archaeological Survey of India is a study of its archaeological, architectural and historical merit. This kind of study and selection of monuments and sites for protection is an ongoing process.

(c): During the last three years (1997-98 to 1999-2000) Archaeological Survey of India conducted excavation at 55 sites. Information about them has not been published in languages other than in English. Besides, archaeological studies have been conducted at 9 places, information regarding one of them, i.e. Mattenchery Palace, District Ernakulam, Kerala has been published in Malayalam language. Epigraphical survey and study has been conducted at twenty three places.